

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as indicated below. The language being added is underlined (“    ”) and the language being deleted contains strikethrough (“~~—~~”):

1. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:  
  
a scanner;  
  
a document analysis and processing software component in communication with said scanner; and

automatic annotation logic in communication with said document analysis and processing software component, said automatic annotation logic configured to detect handwriting in a scanned image and save said handwriting as an annotation in a document generated from said scanned image such that, when a preview image corresponding to the scanned image is displayed to a user via a display device, the annotation is not automatically displayed to the user, said automatic annotation logic being further configured to enable selective viewing of the annotation in association with the preview image.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said automatic annotation logic is configured to detect said handwriting based on a region in said scanned image selected by a user of said scanner.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein said automatic annotation logic is configured to detect said handwriting on a notation on a page.

5. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said handwriting is written directly on a page.
6. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting recognition logic configured to recognize said handwriting.
7. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned image.
8. (Original) The system of claim 1, further comprising handwriting/notation removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned image.
9. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned image.
10. (Original) The system of claim 4, further comprising handwriting/notation removal logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned image.

11. (Previously Presented) A method comprising:  
scanning a document to acquire a scanned image;  
detecting handwriting in said scanned image; and  
modifying said scanned image to remove said handwriting from the scanned image  
such that the handwriting is not automatically displayed to an operator viewing the scanned  
image via a display device, the handwriting being saved as an annotation associated with said  
scanned image, the annotation being selectively viewable by the operator.
12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising receiving a user  
selection of a region in which the handwriting is to be detected.
13. (Canceled)
14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, wherein said detecting comprises  
detecting said handwriting on a notation on a page.
15. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said handwriting is written directly on a  
page.
16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising recognizing said  
handwriting using handwriting recognition logic.
17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising removing the  
appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned image.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11, further comprising removing the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned image.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising ~~the step of~~ removing the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned image.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, further comprising removing the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned image.

21. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium having a program the program comprising logic for:

scanning a document to acquire a scanned image;

detecting handwriting in said scanned image; and

modifying said scanned image to remove said handwriting from the scanned image such that the handwriting is not automatically displayed to an operator viewing the scanned image via a display device, the handwriting being saved as an annotation associated with said scanned image, the annotation being selectively viewable by the operator.

22. (Previously Presented) The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to receive a user selection of a region in which the handwriting is to be detected.

23. (Canceled)

24. (Previously Presented) The program of claim 21, wherein said handwriting is on a notation on a page.
25. (Original) The program of claim 21, wherein said handwriting is written directly on a page.
26. (Previously Presented) The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured for recognizing said handwriting using handwriting recognition logic.
27. (Original) The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from a preview image created from said scanned image.
28. (Original) The program of claim 21, further comprising logic configured to remove the appearance of said handwriting from said document generated from said scanned image.
29. (Original) The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from a preview image created from said scanned image.
30. (Original) The program of claim 24, further comprising logic configured to remove the appearance of said notation from said document generated from said scanned image.

31. (Currently Amended) A system for processing a document that includes a notation, said system comprising:

analysis and processing logic operative to:

receive information corresponding to a scanned document;

determine whether the information comprises a notation; and

if a notation is identified, process the information such that, when a preview image corresponding to the scanned document is displayed to the user on a display device, the notation is not automatically displayed to the user,

the analysis and processing logic being further operative to selectively display the notation in association with the preview image.

32. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein, in determining whether the information comprises a notation, the analysis and processing logic is operative to:

identify handwriting in the document such that handwriting identified is designated as a notation.

33. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, wherein, in displaying the preview image to the user, the analysis and processing logic is further operative to:

display an identifier corresponding to the notation; and

in response to the user actuating the identifier, display the notation to the user.

34. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the analysis and processing logic is operative to actuate the identifier in response to the user moving a cursor, displayed by the display device, over the identifier.

35. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the identifier is a number.
36. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 33, wherein the identifier is a highlighted portion of the preview image.
37. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 31, further comprising:  
a scanner operative to scan the document and provide information corresponding to the scanned document to the analysis and processing logic.